Miniature Section - this is where we need to do some work. The current rules say that a bloom which is normally 4" or under should be shown here. Just because the bloom is 4" or under at this particular show does not make it a miniature. The key word is "normally".

I think we need to make up a list of accepted miniatures, names only, and have one of these lists available for each team of judges. When a bloom shows up on a miniature tag that is not on the list the judges should draw a line through the word "miniature" and judge the bloom as any other double or single. We all know that these lists could not be absolutely up to date. The newer varieties aren't the problem. it is the FLORIDA SUNSET, BARBARA BUFF, ROWENA WEDDING, and FIJI blooms that show up in the miniature class when the exhibitors should know don't belong there.

Let me ask you to help with this list. Please get

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out your nomenclature and check the miniatures. If you know of miniatures that are not listed, drop me a letter listing them. I will check them out and try to make as complete an up to date list as possible. I need help from people like Trail Nursery and Mr. Yettaw who have seedling miniatures that are not yet listed.

Seedlings - if you talk to five hybridizers you will get five methods of judging and staging seedlings. To my mind the purpose of hybridizing new seedlings is to produce something different or of much superior quality. If a hybridizer produces a seedling so close to another existing variety that one has to put them side by side to find the difference, I don't think it should receive an award of any kind in the seedling section, no matter how perfect the bloom is. In cases such as these I feel that the hybridizer should not tag a new name on his seedling, but use the old name and show his perfect bloom in the regular competition.

Mr. Trainor wrote a very good article on judging seedlings in the last issue. The one area that needs improvement however, is in the training of seedling judges. One must remember that in judging seedlings one has nothing to use as comparison. I feel that what we need are several judges especially trained to judge seedlings. Then whichever judging method is used a team made up of these specialists could judge all seedlings.

Now we come to the 64 dollar question. What can we do about the quality of gold seal awards? At some of the shows this season we saw some gold seals awarded to bloom definitely not of gold seal quality for one reason or another. This is a hard problem to lick. Human nature being what it is, and the fact that it is impossible to know every variety, makes this problem acute.

I have spoken to some of the exhibitors at the shows about my idea in this connection and would like to pass it on to you readers for comment. I fully

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